Subcutaneous shots in infants and toddlers are given either in the upper arm or in the fatty area of the thigh. The tissue is "pinched" up between the thumb and index finger. Use 25 gauge, 5/8" needle. Insert entire needle at 45º angle.

Intramuscular injections to children and adults are usually given in the upper arm. The deltoid muscle is found about 3 fingers below the acromion, above the level of the armpit. Use 23–25 gauge, 1" needle. Insert entire needle at 90º angle. A 1 1/2" needle may be needed for large adults.

Vaccines given intramuscularly (IM):
- Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis
- Haemophilus influenzae, type b
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Influenza
- Meningococcal Conjugate
- Pneumococcal Conjugate

Vaccines given subcutaneously (SC):
- Inactivated Polio Vaccine*
- Measles-Mumps-Rubella
- Pneumococcal Polysaccharide*
- Varicella

*Can also be given IM.

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